

## REMARKS

This paper is filed as a preliminary amendment in the above captioned patent application, which with the contemporaneous filing of a petition to revive and payment of the appropriate fees, is believed to be currently pending.

The claims that were remaining in the case prior to this amendment which were involved in an interference proceeding #103,781, correspond to claims 1-4, 7, and 15-22. These prior pending claims are cancelled with this paper.

The new claims 23-32 are believed to be fully supported by the specification as filed, including the originally filed claims in the application from which the current application depends. It is believed that no new matter has been introduced into the specification or claims with the filing of the new claims.

As a reminder, the Examiner is directed MPEP 707.02, and the fact that the application has been pending for more than five years and so should be considered "special". Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this application be made special, and advanced out of turn for examination in an expeditious manner (MPEP 708.01, subpart (I), and 37 CFR 1.102).

It is respectfully requested that the indicated claims be cancelled and the new claims be entered, and that the application and claims as amended be examined on the merits.

Respectfully requested,



Timothy K. Ball, Ph.D., Esq.  
PTO Reg No. 42,287  
Monsanto Company, E2NA  
800 North Lindbergh Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63167  
(314) 693-5811  
FAX (314) 694-5311